## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A coded image data decoding system is designed to depack and variable-length decode image data packed by an image compressing/decompressing format wherein the sum of the length of components other than variable-length code components in one block and the length of an end code is not shorter than a bit length obtained by subtracting 1 bit from the number of bits of the maximum length of variable-length code words. This decoding system comprises: a main memory for storing code strings for one video segment; a decoding circuit for variable-length decoding code strings outputted from the main memory; a block storing circuit, provided between the main memory and the decoding circuit so as to be capable of storing code strings for one block, for storing code strings for concatenated two blocks; and a depacking circuit, including the block storing circuit, for suitably combining required portions of sequentially supplied code strings to complete code strings for one block when code strings supplied from the main memory are not code strings for one block.